

HB875 HD1

Measure Title: RELATING TO HISTORIC PRESERVATION.

Report Title: Historic Preservation; State Historic Preservation Division; Appropriations (\$)

Description: Appropriates funds for 5 full-time equivalent (5.00 FTE) temporary student intern II positions within the state historic preservation division. (HB875 HD1)

Companion:

Package: None

Current Referral: IAA, WAM

Introducer(s): EVANS, BROWER, CACHOLA, MCKELVEY, MIZUNO, NAKASHIMA, TODD, YAMANE, San Buenaventura

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

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**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AND THE ARTS**

**Thursday, March 16, 2017
11:00A.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 875, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

House Bill 875, House Draft 1 proposes to establish and fund five (5) temporary Student Intern II positions within the State Historic Preservation Division (Division) in the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department). **The Department is unable to support this measure as drafted and recommends restoring general funds as the means of financing.**

The Department initially supported this measure when it proposed funding using general funds. House Draft 1 changed the source of funding from general funds to special funds. Due to the limited and restricted nature of the special fund accounts and the fact that the majority of funding is used to cover operational expenses, there is no guarantee that appropriate and sufficient funding will be available to support these positions.

The Division administers the historic preservation review processes established by the Legislature in Chapter 6E-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. These reviews are essential to protection and management of Hawaii's unique cultural and historic heritage. Timely reviews of projects by the Division are also critical to ensuring the timely development of housing, critical infrastructure, and other economic development initiatives. The Division's backlog of project reviews is slowing down projects. This backlog is a result of a tight market for qualified applicants and an exceptionally heavy project review workload. Although nearly all of the Division's vacancies have recently been filled, the Division has had substantial difficulty filling vacancies in the necessary technical disciplines.

SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

KEKOA KALUHIWA
FIRST DEPUTY

JEFFREY T. PEARSON
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

The Division's recruitment challenges arise from substantial salary differentials between what it can offer when compared with other employers, the very healthy state of Hawaii's economy, and the limited size of the pool of qualified professionals in Hawai'i. When the Division began its most recent efforts to recruit archaeologists, for example, six (6) other organizations in Hawai'i were also recruiting archaeologists. All three of the Division's most recent hires have been from the mainland United States.

The Department believes that establishing, funding and filling the proposed Student Intern positions can help address these issues. Working under the direct guidance of senior professional staff, Student Interns can be trained to conduct project reviews, helping reduce the backlog. At the same, the Student Interns would gain important practical knowledge and skills in historic preservation and leave the internship program much better prepared for their careers. The Department also believes that this internship program will increase the size of the pool of qualified applicants for historic preservation technical positions, both for the Division, for other agencies, and private consulting firms who require qualified professionals in historic preservation disciplines.

The Department believes that funding of the five proposed Student Intern positions will require an appropriation of \$204,000.00 in each year of the biennium. The Department respectfully requests this measure be amended to provide for general funding for these positions.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

HISTORIC HAWAII FOUNDATION

TO: Sen. Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Sen. J. Kalani English, Vice Chair
Committee on International Affairs and the Arts

FROM: Kiersten Faulkner, Executive Director
Historic Hawaii Foundation

Committee: Thursday, March 16, 2017
2:45 p.m.
Conference Room 229

RE: HB 875 HD1, Relating to Historic Preservation

On behalf of Historic Hawaii Foundation, I am writing in **support for HB 875 HD1**. The bill would establish five full-time equivalent (5.0 FTE) temporary student intern II positions within the State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

Both state and federal laws are designed to take into account the effect of a project on historic properties, and to avoid, minimize or mitigate for adverse effects. These laws are designed to strike a balance between providing for the current needs of a community and preservation of the historical and cultural foundations that are a living part of our community life.

The consultation process is highly standardized and methodical in its framework, but allows for professional judgment, community input and creative solutions that respond to the specific needs and circumstances of each case.

The review procedures can only work with adequate professional staff to participate in the process and ensure its timely completion. Enhancing the capacity of SHPD for timely and well-qualified participation serves both to support our historic properties and ensure the timely completion of projects.

While HHF prefers to see these professional positions filled with full-time, regular employees, we understand the department's challenges and concerns in filling vacancies. The proposal to provide an internship program both to mentor and support the next generation of preservationists, and to provide enhancement of the workforce to address the work flow demands, is a practical way forward.

We noted that DLNR has expressed concerns with funding the positions from special funds rather than general funds. While HHF does not take a position on the source of funding, we would be concerned if this measure resulted in reduction of funding for the State Historic Preservation Division's other personnel or operations. The intern positions should be in addition to, rather than in lieu of, regular services.

Since 1974, Historic Hawai'i Foundation (HHF) has been a statewide leader for historic preservation. HHF works to preserve Hawaii's unique architectural and cultural heritage and believes that historic preservation is an important element in the present and future quality of life, economic viability and environmental sustainability of the state.

Therefore, Historic Hawai'i Foundation supports HB 875 HB1.

Testimony for
Committee on International Affairs and the Arts
Thursday, March 16, 2017, 2:45 p.m. Room 229

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair

HB875 HD1 Relating to Historic Preservation

Dear Chair Taniguchi and Members of the Committee:

This testimony is providing comments as to not being in support of HB875 HD1 as it has been amended. We are in strong support of the original bill that had appropriated funds from the General Fund (not from a special fund) for 5 full-time equivalent temporary student intern II positions for the State Historic Preservation Division during the fiscal years 2017-2018 and 2018-2019. The amount of \$204,000 for each of the two years would make this possible.

I am Lynn McCrory, Senior Vice President of Government Affairs for Pulama Lanai. I served on the Board of Land & Natural Resources for eight years representing the island of Kauaʻi, and have worked with the divisions within DLNR for many years. Pulama Lānaʻi, the company I now represent, is the entity that was set up by Larry Ellison to work with the community and government as we move the island of Lanai toward sustainability.

It is very important to have our history and culture preserved and documented. The State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) is seeing many more permits, plans, and studies come to them for review with the continued healthy Hawaiʻi economy. SHPD is the expert to ensure that we have recorded and preserved our history and culture for the education of future generations. This bill will provide SHPD with additional support for their responsibilities. And, we hope, inspire the interns to go forward with historic preservation as their careers at school. We know there will be employment at home for them in Hawaiʻi.

We humbly ask for your support to amend HB875 HD1 to return to the \$204,000 for each years' funding coming from the General Funds. Mahalo!

Me ke aloha pumehana
With warm aloha,

Lynn P. McCrory
Senior Vice President of Government Affairs

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 11, 2017 12:54 PM
To: IAA Testimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB875 on Mar 16, 2017 14:45PM*

HB875

Submitted on: 3/11/2017

Testimony for IAA on Mar 16, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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